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Gems.

Come, come to him who made thy heart,
Come weary and oppressed,
To come to Jesus is thy part,
His part to give thee rest.
New grief, new hope He will bestow
Thy grief and pain to quell,
Into thy heart himself will go,
And that will make thee well.

Things in General; Some Things in Particular.

The World Wiser Than The Church.—U. S. Grant, in his article on Chattanooga, published in Nov. Century, says: "In the battle of Chattanooga troops from the Army of the Potomac, from the army of the Tennessee, and from the army of the Cumberland, participated." The heavy rains and sudden rise of the Tennessee River, "so mingled the troops that the organizations were not kept together under their respective commanders during the battle." Notwithstanding this mingling of troops, "there was no jealousy, hardly rivalry. * * * All saw a defiant foe surrounding them, and took it for granted that every move was intended to dislodge them, and it made no difference where the troops came from so this end was accomplished." What a grand thing if the churches could so mingle as to lose sight of denominational lines and badges and nicknames, and see only the foe and work together for his overthrow. In some things, the children of this world are wiser than the children of light.

Words From Our Commander.—Gen. Pemberton, commander at Vicksburg, said: "Soldiers be vigilant, brave and active; let there be no cowards, no laggards nor stragglers from the ranks, and the God of battles will certainly crown our efforts with success." That was grand advice to soldiers on the eve of carnal warfare, and they are applicable to us engaged in spiritual warfare. But Peter put it more pointedly the Pemberton. "Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour." So did Paul: "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand." The Bible is on top every time. Better than Peter's or Paul's are the words of Christ. "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

A Voice From the Dead.—Before my father died he directed an envelope to my brother, but did not use it. After his death, my sister found the envelope, enclosed a letter and sent it off. My brother said he could not explain his feelings as that letter was handed him. There was the envelope addressed in father's bold hand, and he under the sod, it must have been a shock, not anticipated by sister when she sent it. If the dead would come back or could write to us, with what awe would we view them or read their words, yet the

novelty would wear away, or be explained so as to satisfy conscience. We have words from one who rose on the third day, but how many treat him and his words with contempt: "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

Fire in the pulpit—Fire is very comfortable these cold days. That church is comfortable that has fire in its pulpit; very uncomfortable if there is a lump of ice in place of fire. People have a great deal to do with putting fire or ice in the pulpit. There is as much human nature about preachers as other men. If they are uncared for when depending on the people for support, they are apt to be icy in the pulpit; how can a man be glowing on Sunday when he is wondering where fuel and food is coming from next week. See that your pastor is cared for and you will find fire in the pulpit, and on Sunday there will be a spiritual glow throughout the congregation, and you will go home not only fed but warm.

Doctrinal Preaching—"A church has a history, and it has a destiny. It must keep faith with both if it would be true to God," so says the *Methodist Recorder*. A church also has a doctrine and it must be true to that doctrine if it would be true to God. There is a disposition on the part of some to shun the declaration of the whole truth. Said a preacher when asked to preach a doctrinal sermon, "oh no, it will only make our pedobaptist friends mad." Said a preacher to me: "don't preach any doctrine." "Why," I asked. "Well," he said: "there are some here who don't believe in our doctrine." I preached a doctrinal sermon, and one of the parties who did not "believe in our doctrine" said he thought we were right. What a spectacle; a preacher trying to choke off doctrine for the sake of one not a member, and that one coming out and saying we were right. The principles of the doctrine of Christ must be accepted before men can go on to perfection, and they will only be accepted when understood, and they will only be understood when made known. If our doctrine is wrong, get rid of it; if right, advertise it, as well as practice it. For my part I preach under direction of the Holy Ghost, and I do not thank any man to meet me at the pulpit steps, and with a sickly smile say: "Don't preach any doctrine to night." It is better to obey God than man.

The Home Pulpit—The baby is growing and the improvement great: a neat cover, good paper, and pointed articles. They are not like the little boy's sermon, he said: "the beginning was al-right and the ending was al-right, but it had too much middle. The articles are about right in all three places. That is a unique explanation of Baalim and his animal. It may be correct, for all I know; and take it literally, it is not greater than Jonah and the whale. Any way,

it is a common occurrence at this day for a man who is trying to do his duty, preach the word defend the doctrine, and be true to Christ—a very common occurrence for such a man, to be rebuked by an ass.

JOHN DUKE.

Rejoicing.

In reading over the beautiful letters in No. 49, I feel to rejoice over the good report of our Brethren who are engaged in the work of our Master. I see an inquiry made by Bro. G. A. Copp. I think his ideas are correct and he wishes to wake up other writers. His letter, I hope, will cause many to write. Bro. George S. Rinker gave us a meeting a few days ago, and looking for our brother E. B., he did not come for the reason, he had taken possession of the fort and captured 10 precious souls from the enemy, which is his delight. I see that a good harvest is being gathered by our much beloved brethren, those whom I have acquaintance with R. F. Mallott and D. McFaden. I rejoice over the sheaves they are gathering in. I pray the Lord will ever crown their labors with great success.

R. S. PANGLE.

Wheatfield, Va.

Cambria County Items.

Sunday, Nov. 6th, our meeting was at Fair View, three miles from Mineral Point, and on account of the snowstorm and other reasons, the congregation was not very large, yet we had a good meeting. On Saturday afternoon, Nov. 12th, my wife and little daughter accompanied me to the home of brother Daniel Stutsman, a distance of two or three miles, for the purpose of attending meeting, which was held in a school-house near by. The brethren have been having meeting regularly every three weeks at this place, for some time, and recently concluded to have a short protracted meeting, commencing on Saturday evening, Nov. 12th. But our design and desire was to some extent frustrated by a late decision of the school board. Saturday evening, Sunday at 10 A. M. and at 7 P. M. concluded our meeting for the time being. Our meeting was short but good, and I feel satisfied that if our meeting could have been kept up for a week or ten days, much good would have been done.

We made our home with brother Stutsman and family during our stay at this place. On Monday morning brother Stutsman ordered his team to be brought out and our little family was placed in the sled and sent home, and that was not all: no, indeed; but along with them was sent potatoes, turnips, beef, pork, sausage, pudding, &c. After unloading all this and while feeling very thankful I began to wonder what caused this brother and sister to act so kindly to us their worn-out minister. Could it be because we are near relations? We answered no: unless they act quite differently

from some that are just as nearly related to us. My conclusion was this, that brother and sister Stutsman read their bible and by so doing have learned to be kind to the poor. And I ventured another assertion, and that is, that the EVANGELIST is read in this family. And others of our neighbors remembered us when they butchered. Please accept our thanks.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND
Mineral Point, Pa.

Coming to the Rescue.

How cheering, how encouraging it is, when over-burdened with care, and a load too heavy for one's strength, to have strong hands and willing hearts come to our rescue, and just in time to give the much needed relief. For several years a few brethren have borne the weight of the College debt. The Trustees are responsible for the entire debt of the College, and amongst this number are some men that are in very ordinary circumstances, and should the college fall under the "hammer," it would financially ruin some, and the most wealthy trustee would be severely injured; and not only this, but all that has been donated to the college would be lost to the Brethren Church. For some time now the debt of Ashland College has been a terrible weight upon some of us, especially here at Ashland; for nearly every one has done all in their power to rescue the college, and yet the response to our appeal for help has been rather slow and we have almost despaired. We feel much encouraged, however, for we see the EVANGELIST College Fund is increasing and this, as an aid to Bro. Holsinger, inspires new hope. Much remains to be done yet, however; until all the indebtedness is wiped out, and dear Brethren and Sisters, if you do not come to the rescue speedily, the College must go and the brethren here at Ashland who have done more than many of you know of will suffer. Can you, will you thus let the college go and your brethren suffer? I imagine I hear ten, twenty, fifty, one hundred and five hundred dollar responses, saying No; Never! Never! Bro. R. Arnold and Bro. Ridenour's response have the true ring, and how soon this debt can be raised if we only all put our shoulder to the wheel.

Now dear reader, let me make one appeal to your Progressive Christianity; come and help the over-burdened trustees to free Ashland College, and remove a load from our shoulders that is dragging us down, and save the honor and integrity of the Brethren Church.

ISAAC KILHEFNER.

I would advise any one suffering from any form of rheumatism to obtain a bottle of Athlophoros and see the effect. I tried almost everything to little profit, until I purchased a bottle of Athlophoros. Chas. R. Johnson, West William street, Delaware, O.

The Bridle.

Our German Baptist brother, M. M. Eshelmen, in a dedicatory sermon, explained the bridle, (that St. James speaks of,) in this manner: The bit is the word of God; the Headstall in the Holy Ghost; and the rein is the judgment of the Church.

At a lyceum, one time, my opponent said that the women ruled the universe. In my reply, I confessed that I had always been laboring under a great mistake, as I always thought God ruled the universe; but in this case, I dare not say any thing.

I presume he skipped Rev. 2: 23. No wonder some can turn the work of God to suit them.

H. E. FAIDLEY.

Burr, Oak, Kan.

LANARK, ILL.—Having had about ten members in and about Lanark, and being very desirous that the people of this place should have the full satisfaction of becoming acquainted with the doctrine of Christ as understood by the Brethren, and to accept Jesus in and through the whole Gospel: (this and nothing more.) We engaged the services of Bro. Bashor. He began services on the evening of Dec. 8th, in the Baptist Church. The weather being unfavorable at first, the outlook was not so promising as it might have been. The congregations continued to grow, until chairs and benches were placed in the isles, yet some had to occupy standing room. The congregations were even sometimes beyond our most sanguine expectations.

Bro. Bashor's preaching drew forth a great deal of comment and no little criticism. It was very evident that some were hurt. Well, a reformation always hurts somebody. With a few exceptions the religious people of Lanark manifested a commendable spirit. The immediate result of the meetings were fourteen accessions, including one to be baptized. We feel happy over the result of the protracted effort at this place. The brethren have put their feet down at Lanark to remain. We rejoice in the number of converts and are greatly encouraged by the substantial character of these accessions to our number. Not a few are from the first classes of society.

The meetings closed with a good feeling on Dec. 23. The good people of Lanark are particular as to the kind of preaching they are willing to go and hear. It requires a strong man to draw a house full outside of the organized churches in the town. Bro. Bashor fills the place of the "strong man" and meets our wants very satisfactorily. He was much worn. Several times he felt the attack of his accustomed disease. Oh! that he could permanently overcome it (excuse the Oh, Bro. Bashor?) Since our last report one more has united with us at Bethlehem.

Z. T. LIVENGOOD.

Send in your name for the Annual.